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It is difficult to preserve a judicial moderation in speaking of this work, which is about everything that a book of the kind ought to be, and must remain for a very long time the chief authority upon all matters connected with the keeping open of the world's water-ways for seaborne trade, not only of Britain but of her allies and of neutrals. It would seem to merit the compliment of much more space than the reviewer has at his command, and yet such is the high quality of the book and its vast importance as a contribution to history, that it really suffices to say that it is absolutely indispensable, not only to the historian but to all who care to appreciate fully the essential factors in the greatest of all wars, particularly those connected with the economic development of the struggle. No one can read it without having impressed upon him once again the overwhelming importance of seaborne trade, of the merchant marine in fact, to any country bordering upon the ocean, both as a source of riches and as a decisive factor in national defense.

Mr. Fayle's style, exact yet spirited, is well suited to a work of this kind, in which graphic descriptions of the exploits of the *Emden* or the *Karlsruhe* alternate with clear expositions of trade situations and tonnage problems.

A small but excellent appendix gives tables of shipping losses, export and import values and weights, and the prices of staples for the period covered by this volume. There is also a good index. The book is not illustrated but is furnished with nine admirable maps (contained in cover-pockets) showing the principal trade-routes of the world and those of certain particular areas, as well as the scenes of the activities of the German raiders.

EDWARD BRECK.

Secrets of Crewe House: the Story of a Famous Campaign. By Sir CAMPBELL STUART, K.B.E. (London, New York, and Toronto: Hodder and Stoughton. 1920. Pp. xiii, 240. 7 s. 6 d.)

THIS book is one of those semi-official accounts of special phases of war or armistice activities with which the public already is familiar, and which promise to form an imposing department of post-bellum literature. It gives a history of the British government's propaganda in enemy countries from February, 1918, when that work was made a distinct branch of war endeavor, until the close of hostilities. It merely alludes by implication to what had been done to influence enemy opinion previously, and still continued to be done, in a less formal way, by other agencies. The author touches upon the propaganda conducted within the territories of the Central Powers by other Allied countries and the United States, only so far as it was associated with British work in this field, through the effort made, very late in the contest, to co-ordinate the propaganda of all the governments fighting Germany under a single advisory committee.

These limitations of subject-matter are less important than might appear at first glance, because after Lord Northcliffe organized his new department at Crewe House, propaganda quickly assumed much greater significance than previously. To some extent this was the result of concentration of effort and increased efficiency under a specialized personnel. But in a larger degree it was because those critical days had come when the peoples and armies of the Central Powers opened their ears to truths to which they had been deaf earlier in the struggle, and because propaganda policies now involved weighty commitments as to the terms of peace.

Indeed the book will be valuable to historians principally on account of the interrelation it traces between programmes of propaganda and political and diplomatic programmes. Otherwise its "secrets" are too innocuous to thrill the reader. It is discreetly reticent as to the actual channels through which literature was smuggled into enemy territories and distributed there; the information it gives as to the mechanics of propaganda is limited mostly to matters of common knowledge. It is not a book of anecdotes or sensations. Its personal allusions are confined to colorless references to official section heads who are introduced with a toastmaster's conventional eulogies. All this, however, is in the spirit of an honest effort to give credit where credit is due. The author was second in command to Lord Northcliffe at Crewe House, and later his successor. Consequently his book has the virtues of authority and ample information, tempered by that touch of banality which seems fated to dull government bureau histories.

But as soon as we approach the larger problems of propaganda, the book becomes a valuable source of knowledge. It lays down the principles which must guide the art of influencing enemy opinion in war. "First of all axioms of propaganda is that only truthful statements be made. Secondly, there must be no conflicting arguments." We are given a lucid description of the way these two guiding rules shaped the organization, technique, and policies of the British propaganda office. The grand strategy of that office is traced—the concentration of forces against Austria-Hungary, with its discordant races open-minded to teachings of revolt; the accommodation of its arguments and appeals to shifting sentiment in Germany, and to the German type of mind, by that "master of psychology", H. G. Wells; the centring of attack at first upon the Junkers rather than the Hohenzollerns; the emphasis of America's great preparations and accomplishments; the stress upon the Allies' constructive peace programme. Here the book, which is illustrated with reproductions of circulars actually used in Germany and on the front, becomes an important contribution to the history of enemy opinion: and it will therefore hold a permanent and creditable place in the literature of the war.

VICTOR S. CLARK.